

XXXI.—The Subfamily Steninae, as represented in N. Sarawak. By L. BENICK.

(With one Plate.)

The representatives of the subfamily Steninae of the Staphylinidae seem to be great rarities on the Sunda-Islands, only 15 species being known from there up to now. One belongs, to the subgenus *Stenus*, 9 to the subgenus *Hypostenus* and 5 to the subgenus *Parastenus*.

From Borneo only two species, *St. bispinus* Motsch and *St. sulcipennis* Bck., were hitherto recorded.

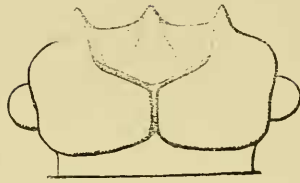
It was therefore much to be appreciated that Dr. E. Mjöberg during his exploration in the northern parts of Sarawak also kept an eye on these rare animals and among his material two species were new. I take the opportunity to describe here also some species found by Dr. E. Mjöberg, in other parts of Borneo and which either were new or up to now not recorded from the island. Also two Sumatra species are recorded. Types deposited in Mr. Benick's collection of Steninae in Naturhistorisches Museum, Lübeck.

1. *STENUS NIGROVIRENS* Fvl.

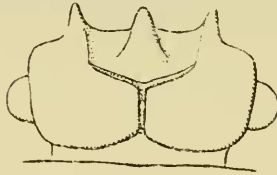
1 ♀ 4.6 mm. long. Agrees well with the original description—Brastagi, Sumatra 1,600 m. leg. Dr. E. Mjöberg, Distribution: Burma, Sumatra.

2. *STENUS MJÖBERGI* n. sp. (Pl. 14, fig. 3—4.)

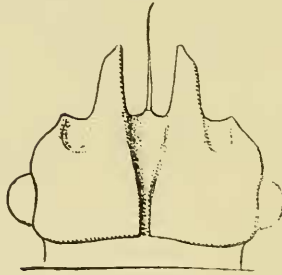
Belongs to the *pictus* group and comes nearest to *St. flavidulus* Sh.



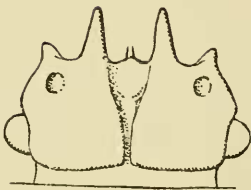
1.

Fig. 1. Head of *Priochirus poseidon* Bernh.

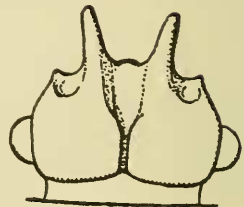
2.

Fig. 2. Head of *Priochirus borneensis* n. sp.

3.

Fig. 3. Head of *Priochirus gazella* n. sp.

4.

Fig. 4. Head of *Priochirus proscionus* n.sp.

5.

Fig. 5. Head of *Priochirus divaricatus* n. sp.

Yellowish-reddish head, a stripe near the eyes, the three last abdominal segments and a large spot on elytra black; shining, only the anterior parts of head and abdomen, especially the sides of its last segments and the base of elytra with distinct whitish hairs; body otherwise thinly hairy, strongly and roughly punctured.

Head fairly broad, much broader than prothorax and hardly more narrow than elytra, slightly impressed, with two sharp but not very deeply impressed eye furrows, middle part forwards flat, backwards elevated in shape of a stripe-like ridge; punctures fine, deeply impressed and fairly dense, median keel smooth: anterior parts of head light-yellow, densely covered with long white hairs, middle of frons brown, collarparts yellowish. Antennae long and slender, of the two incrassate basal joints the 2nd one is shorter, 3rd joint very slender, about three times and a half as long as the 2nd, 4th and 5th both slightly more than half as long as the 3rd, following joints gradually becoming shorter, the three apical joints slightly infusate; palpi slender, apical joint club-shaped and curved outwards at the tip.

Prothorax narrow, roughly one-fifth longer than broad, laterally dilated, widest behind the middle, constricted backwards, the dorsal parts convex, strongly and densely, but not rugosely punctured.

Elytra square, humeral angles distinctly prominent, sides parallel, at the tips broadly emarginate, convex, along the suture slightly impressed, slightly stronger punctured than the prothorax, the punctures on the disc sometimes confluent. The large macula of the disc leaves forwards a broad, laterally, backwards and along the suture, a narrow surface; at the suture the yellow extends slightly forwards and backwards.

Abdomen of the same width as prothorax, tapering backwards; all segments except the first and fifth are provided with a distinct marginal fold; every segment fairly strongly constricted, finer punctured than the prothorax, the punctures wider apart from each other, and finer and not so deep towards the apex, nearly disappearing on the last segment; the posterior margin of the fifth segment provided with a fold, the posterior margin of the seventh segment with a dorsal emargination in which a fine comb of very densely-placed long teeth can be seen under the microscope.

Legs slender, femora at the base slightly incrassate; first joint of the shorter hind tarsi nearly as long as the following three together, the third slightly dilated, the fourth provided with lateral long and narrow appendices; all except the fourth slightly infusate towards the end.

The whole upper surface is smooth and shining, not shagreened: Length of body 5.2 mm. 1 single ♀ from Baram Station, Sarawak. leg. Dr. E. Mjöberg.

Typus in coll. Benick.

This new species differs from the Japanese *Stenus flavidulus* Sh., by the large maculae of the elytra being entirely absent in the former species, and further by the stronger punctures of the whole body and longer and slender antennae.

It gives me great pleasure to name this beautiful species after the discoverer, Dr. E. Mjöberg, Curator of the Sarawak Museum.

STENUS SETOSUS n. sp. (Pl. 14, fig. 5—6.)

Allied to the group of *St. bispinus* Motsch.

Lead-coloured, shining antennae, palpi and legs yellow: only the seventh and eighth joints of antennae dark, of the legs only the knees black, the whole body densely covered with silvery-grey hairs: the basal segment covered by thick, straight, backwardly directed silvery hairs: punctures moderately strong and dense.

Head fairly broad, broader than prothorax, of the same width as elytra, hardly impressed and provided with shallow furrows; median parts indistinctly elevated; behind the antennae some smooth surfaces, otherwise the punctures are fairly dense, moderately strong and deep; anterior parts of head with long white hairs: antennae slender, the two basal joints incrassate, of the same length, the 3rd twice as long as the 2nd and more slender, the 4th hardly shorter than the 3rd, the following joints up to the 8th gradually becoming shorter: the three club-shaped apical joints of the same length as the 8th, nearly twice as long as broad: palpi long, slender, last joint club-shaped, curved outwards at the top,

Elytra as long as prothorax but considerably wider, the humeral corners strongly prominent, laterally nearly parallel, in the apical third rounded and constricted, at the tips broadly emarginate, fairly convex, near the suture slightly impressed, at the base densely covered by silvery hairs, roughly punctured, punctures rarely confluent.

Abdomen considerably more narrow than elytra in posterior parts but broader than prothorax, not tapering towards the end, the three basal segments fairly strongly constricted without lateral margin, last segment provided with a pair of short and sharp chitinous hooks, shorter and not so strongly curved as in *St. bispinus* Motsch; basal segment densely covered with whitish, stiff hairs, which are parallel except at the tips, where they are curved inwards.

Punctures rough only at the constricted parts of the segments, otherwise fine and not very deep; the fifth ring shows a free skinfold; apical segment with a hairy spot near its posterior margin.

Legs strong and of moderate length, femora fairly strongly constricted towards the tips, knees broadly infusate, on the femora to more than the apical half, on the tibia not quite to the middle; on the femora the dark is strictly limited, which is not the case on the tibia; tarsi short, the first joint twice as long as the second, which is of the same length as the following, fourth joint with broad appendices.

Anterior parts of body only finely reticulated at the base of elytra; abdomen deeply shagreened.

The characteristics of the male-sex consist in a fairly broad and deep excision on the sixth ventral segment, which is rounded at the base.

Length of body 3.8 mm. (at extended abdomen). 1 ♂ from Kuching, Sarawak. leg. Dr. E. Mjöberg.

Typus in coll. Benick.

Differs at the first glance from all other members of the *bispinus* group by the colouration of the knees; no other species shows a similar arrangement of hairs on the basal parts of abdomen. It is possible that the dark colouration of the 7th to 8th joints of the antennae is to be regarded as abnormal.

STENUS MEYERI n. sp. (Pl. 14, fig. 7—8.)

Black, only slightly shining, antennae, palpi and legs yellow, antennae intuscate only at the tips, punctures rough and dense, rugose; only tip of abdomen with very fine, short hairs.

Head broad, broader than elytra; eyes big, prominent; frons deeply excavated, with deeply impressed slightly convergent frontal furrows, roughly and deeply punctured except at the base of insertion of antennae; antennae moderately slender, on the inside, except on the two basal joints, provided with some long, thin hairs, 2nd joint slightly longer than broad, 3rd joint slender, nearly three times as long as broad, 4th about $1\frac{3}{4}$ as long as second, following joints gradually decreasing in length; the apical club-shaped joints are all longer than broad; palpi long and slender.

Prothorax hardly longer than broad, its greatest width before the middle, forwards strongly constricted, behind the middle parallel, from there slightly concave, very densely and deeply punctured; punctures here and there confluent, reminiscent of *St. clavicornis* Scop. from Middle Europe.

Elytra at the suture nearly shorter than prothorax, not convex, humeral angles distinctly set off, laterally slightly rounded, backwards broadly emarginate, suture-line broadly impressed, anterior margin with a faint border; punctures rougher than on prothorax, equally rugose.

Abdomen narrower than elytra and prothorax, tapering towards the apex, laterally with a fine border, segments without median carina, the first segments are constricted, roughly and densely punctured, punctures towards posterior margin becoming finer, generally of half the size of those of the head; on the last tergites still finer, at the end of the fifth segment a fine, whitish skinfold; the dorsal slight emargination of the seventh segment carries a fine but distinct granulation, but no comb-like teeth.

Legs robust, tarsi of half the length of tibiae, first joint of the same length as the three following together, fourth provided with long, narrow appendices.

The whole upper surface shows microsculpture, deepest on the abdomen; on the anterior parts some fine, engraved striae are visible, especially on the head.

Length of body 4.6--5.2 mm. ; 2 ♀ from Pah Trap, Kalabit country (3000 ft.) N. Sarawak. leg. Dr. E. Mjöberg.

Typus in coll. Benick.

I am pleased to name this species after my friend, Mr. Paul Meyer in Mailand, who is an enthusiastic student of Coleoptera.

STENUS KURSEONGINUS Bernh.

To this species I refer 1 ♂, which agrees quite well with Bernhauer's description.

Upper surface smooth shining, the fifth tergite possesses a whitish skinfold, the seventh is slightly emarginate at the posterior margin, in this emargination a comb of very stiff hairs is to be seen as described previously in *St. mjobergi* Bck.

The ♂ characters are very distinct. The sixth sternite shows a deep incision, about three times deeper than broad at the entrance; the characters of the fifth segment are not so pronounced, no emargination is to be seen, but the hairs towards the posterior margin are more dense; the fourth segment is broadly emarginate, along the middle slightly impressed, finer punctured and more densely hairy; the third segment shows still fainter characters; metasternum with a broad shallow impression, which is densely and finely punctured; hind femora show behind the base an obtuse process, from there constricted and in their middle (club-shaped) dilated; hind tibiae in their last third curved outwards into an obtuse angle and with a process.

Length of body 5.6 mm. ; 1 ♂ from Bau, Sarawak. Leg Dr. E. Mjöberg.

Distribution : Ost.-Himalaya (Kurseong).

STENUS GIBBIFRONS n. sp.

Belongs to the *prolixus* group.

Black, slightly bluish-shining, fairly deeply punctured, finely and densely hairy, border of anterior parts of head, antennae, palpi and legs yellow.

Head broad, about as broad as the elytra, fairly deeply excavated, the furrows of the frons joining forwards; along the middle a tubercle with smooth and shining surface is visible; also the base of insertion of antennae and a smaller

spot near each eye smooth and shining, otherwise the whole of the frons is moderately roughly, fairly densely and deeply punctured; antennae slender, the two basal joints thicker, 2nd joint shorter than 1st, 3rd much more slender, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ times longer than 2nd, 4th $2\frac{2}{3}$ times the length of the 2nd, 5th still shorter, club-shaped, apical joints longer than broad; palpi slender.

Prothorax narrow, nearly twice as long as broad, laterally hardly dilated, behind the middle slightly constricted, equally convex, fairly roughly but not rugosely punctured; backwards a small, smooth median line is visible.

Elytra at the suture of the same length as prothorax, but considerably broader, the humeral angles prominent, sides parallel, backwards slightly constricted, at the posterior margin broadly emarginate, at the base of the suture impressed, punctures of a similar kind as on prothorax, not confluent.

Abdomen at the base considerably narrower than elytra, laterally not bordered, across the four first segments constricted, nearly as strongly but not so densely punctured as elytra, punctures of the last segment considerably finer: the 5th tergite shows a whitish skinfold.

Legs slender, femora towards the apex broadly constricted; tarsi slightly more than half as long as the tibia, 1st joint nearly as long as the following together, the last ones with long hairs, the 4th bilobate.

The upper surface shows no sign of a microsculpture.

Length of body 5.8 mm. 1 ♀ from Bandar Baro, Sumatra, East Coast, 850 metres (Corporal).

Typus in coll. Benick.

Explanation of Plate 14.

- Fig. 1. *Kalabita operculata* n. sp., natural size.*
 .. 2. *Pomponia rajah* n. sp., natural size.*
 .. 3. *Stenus mjobergi* n. sp., (12/1).
 The fine punctures of elytra mark the dark maculae.
 .. 4. Tip of abdomen of *Stenus mjobergi* n. sp. (90/1).
 .. 5. *Stenus setosus* n. sp. (12/1).
 .. 6. Tip of abdomen of *Stenus setosus* n. sp. (25/1).
 .. 7. *Stenus meyeri* n. sp. (12/1).
 .. 8. Hind tarsus of *Stenus meyeri* n. sp. (20/1).

* For description see Art. XXXIV, Cicadas from N. Sarawak. By the late Dr. J. C. Moulton.